IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-11 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

12. (NEW) A playback device comprising:

reading means for reading a string of uniform sized blocks;

data selection means for selecting one or more block headers and determining the presence of the start of an audio unit in the block using the block header of the block; and

assembling means for assembling audio units from said blocks using said block headers, and consequently assembling an audio unit from the audio packets.

13. (NEW) The playback device of claim 12, wherein the data selection means determine the presence of a start of an audio unit in a block using a logical non-audio unit start indicator present in a block header.

14. (NEW) The playback device of claim 12, wherein the data selection means determine the presence of a start of an audio unit in an audio packet using a logical packet audio unit start indicator present in a block header.

15. (NEW) The playback device of claim 12, wherein the date selection means detect a next following audio unit using a pointer in a block header pointing to a block